FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Victoria Venable, Legislative Director

HB 222 – Baltimore County and Frederick County - Career Activities in Public High Schools - Sale of Coffee by Students with Individualized Education Programs

DATE: February 8, 2023

COMMITTEE: House Ways and Means Committee

POSITION: Favorable

FROM: The Office of Frederick County Executive Jessica Fitzwater

As the County Executive of Frederick County, I urge the committee to give **HB 222 – Baltimore** County and Frederick County - Career Activities in Public High Schools - Sale of Coffee by Students with Individualized Education Programs a favorable report.

This bill amends a current law that allows Baltimore County high school students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) to participate in a supervised career exploration and development activity to apply also to Frederick County. The current program, which has been successful in Baltimore County, allows students with IEPs to organize and run a coffee shop open only to fellow students, teachers, and staff a few hours during the school week. By aligning the activity with the students' IEP goals, students are able to build social-emotional skills and interact with a broader range of peer students.

Frederick County has observed the success of this program in Baltimore County and would like to offer this opportunity to students with IEPs in Frederick County Public Schools.

Thank you for your consideration of HB 222 and thank you Delegate Ken Kerr and the Frederick County Delegation for sponsoring this bill. I urge a favorable report.

Jessica Fitzwater, County Executive

Frederick County, MD